

Message Text

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65

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 AGR-10 COME-00 OMB-01 TRSE-00

STR-04 L-03 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 (ISO) W

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R 200759Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY MADRID

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4300

UNCLAS MADRID 0392

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRDJ SP

SUBJ: DISCRIMINATORY PRACTICES AND DELAYS IN GRANTING IMPORT
LICENSES ON U.S. WHISKEY

REF: STATE 8731

1. LICENSES COVERING ALL PENDING APPLICATIONS FOR IMPORTS OF U.S. WHISKEY HAVE BEEN ISSUED BY THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE VALID FOR A PERIOD OF SIX MONTHS. THE TOTAL AMOUNT INVOLVED ACCORDING TO THE MINISTRY IS MODERATELY GREATER THAN THE AUTHORIZED IMPORT LEVEL IN 1975.

2. COMMERCE HAS REQUESTED MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY TO MODIFY DECREE NO. 644 TO EXCLUDE BOURBON AND OTHER NON-SCOTCH TYPE WHISKIES ON GROUNDS THAT SUCH IMPORTS ARE SMALL IN QUANTITY, THEY ARE MAINLY CONSUMED BY TOURISTS AND THE INTENT OF THE DECREE (PROTECTION OF THE LOCAL WHISKEY INDUSTRY) IS NOT AIDED BY PROHIBITING IMPORTS OF NON-SCOTCH WHISKIES. IN DISCUSSION WITH MINISTRY, EMBASSY INFORMED THAT MODIFICATION OF DECREE 644 MAY TAKE SOME TIME BECAUSE OF BUREAUCRATIC DELAYS, BUT THAT U.S. WHISKIES WOULD BE ADMITTED AS SPECIAL CASE PENDING MODIFICATION.

3. ALTHOUGH SOME PROBLEM APPARENTLY STILL EXISTS WITH REGARD TO CANADIAN WHISKEY, LOCAL FEDERATION OF IMPORTERS OF FOREIGN BEVERAGES, WHICH REPRESENTS ALL WHISKEY IMPORTERS, INFORMS US THAT THEY REGARD DIFFICULTIES SOLVED WITH RESPECT TO U.S. WHISKEY BUT WILL LET US KNOW IF FURTHER PROBLEMS ARISE.

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STABLER

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Message Attributes

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Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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